

Selectmen's minutes of meeting June 23, 2014

Members present: Patrick Barrett, Jeff Gray, Lisa Blackmer  
Steve Harasyko, Dolores Harasyko

Members absent: Rosario Messina

Called to order at 7:07 p.m.

Steve provided highway department updates. Reviewed and signed chapter 90 paperwork for reimbursements and for the pothole repair projects.

Discussed culverts

Discussed signs at the Silverbrook Dam. The dam and the signs are owned by the Army Core of Engineers. The signs have disappeared.

Grading and roadside mowing continues.

Steve and Lisa will be attending a Highway Sup. meeting regarding Chapter 30B.

Steve pointed out that there has been spraying done on Tolland Rd below the power lines. He is not sure who has done the spraying, he was not contacted before the spraying happened.

John Burrows in as Emergency Management Director to request a legal opinion on the process of trading his emergency management van and the 1977 Oshkosh which is assigned to the police department. He would like to trade in both vehicles towards a used Ford Ranger pickup. The value is under \$5,000. If it is legal to do so, the Selectmen agreed with the trade. Lisa will follow up with the procurement law.

Motion by Patrick, second by Jeff to appoint Anina Carr to the Strategic Future Planning Committee.

Discussed cemetery rules and regulations. Ron Pachulski present disagrees with having any rules or regulations. He feels that since we have not had any in place in 300 years we don't need them now. Patrick responded that Cemetery Commissioner Ben Campetti came in with concerns backed up with pictures which shows trees, shrubs and invasive plants spreading and growing too large. Ron feels if you want 8 foot trees then you should be able to plant them. The selectmen responded that the root systems are intruding into abutting plots. Ben stated that the root systems could eventually undermine the headstones. Lisa stated that the rules and regulations would be for moving forward to protect the condition of the cemetery. What is currently in place would be grandfathered. Both Jeff and Patrick responded that the trees are potential problems especially in a high wind area. Discussed the use of power tools. The person that mows the cemetery is concerned that people that maintain their own family plots may do damage to other plots. Dolores commented on the condition of the older cemeteries in town. We have a lot of damage to plots and headstones directly related to invasive plants and trees. There are few families left from the old cemeteries and therefore the plants and trees are not maintained which has toppled stones and allowed moss to grow deteriorate the stones. By looking into this now we are planning for the future condition

of the currently used cemetery. This is a pro active approach. Patrick would like more research on rules and regulations other towns use. Lisa and Ben will work together to have a draft to present in the fall. John Burrows suggested a field trip of all the towns cemeteries to make a comprehensive report. All agreed that this is a good idea.

Discussed Town Council for FY2015. Lisa presented a proposal from Kopelman & Paige. Discussed the timeline. Reviewed the reasons for the appointment for FY2014. Discussed keeping town council in place and using Kopelman & Paige for specialty issues. Lisa reviewed the bylaw regarding town council appointment. The selectmen will contact town council and discuss concerns they have.

Motion by Patrick, second by Jeff to appoint Lisa Blackmer as the Chief Procurement Officer.

Mail reviewed  
Warrants reviewed and signed.

At 9:25 p.m. motion to enter into Executive Session for the express purpose of contract negotiation with the Town Administrator and to re enter the regular meeting after to vote on the contract.

Roll call: Patrick, yes, Jeff, yes

Regular session reconvened at 9:50 p.m.

Motion by Patrick, second by Jeff to accept the 3 year contract for the Lisa Blackmer, Town Administrator.

Meeting adjourned 9:55 p.m.

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Patrick Barrett

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Jeffrey Gray